



2004-2005 Fisheries & Habitat Partnership Announcement

Funding Available for Local Projects

Ocean Trust, the National Fisheries Institute, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center are announcing the availability of funds to support cooperative projects with America's food fishing industry to restore habitat and enhance living marine resources of the United States. We are seeking partners and invite the submission of project proposals.

Who: Individuals, associations or companies in fish and seafood production, processing, distribution, retail, foodservice, support or advisory services with the industry may apply.

What: Please submit a project proposal following posted *guidelines* that describes:

- the need for restoration or enhancement of a proposed habitat or marine resource
- the proposed restoration or enhancement activity
- potential industry, technical or community partners
- estimated budget and sources of matching funds or services

When: Project proposals must be submitted by *June 30, 2004*. Proposals submitted after June 30 will be considered during a second solicitation period ending October 30, 2004.

Where: Mail to: Ocean Trust, 11921 Freedom Drive; Suite 550-PMB 5580, Reston, VA 20190 or Fax to: (703) 450-9853; or Email to: tjlassen@oceantrust.org. Questions call: (703) 450-9852. Additional information is available at www.oceantrust.org.

How: Project proposals may be submitted beginning on June 1, 2004. June 1 is the earliest date funded projects can possibly begin contingent upon the release of federal funding support for the partnership program.

Funds: Projects with proposed funding levels from \$5,000 - \$20,000 are encouraged. Federal funds of up \$100,000 may be available. Partnership grants will be awarded on a one-to-one matching basis with industry contributions of time, equipment and funds.

Assistance: Applicants may seek technical assistance in proposal planning from NOAA's Community-Based Restoration Program Contacts listed below.

Sample restoration projects supported through this program are at www.oceantrust.org.

Ocean Trust, NOAA, NFI 2004 Proposal Guidelines

Announcement

Ocean Trust, National Fisheries Institute (NFI) and the Community-Based Restoration Program administered by NOAA's Restoration Center are pleased to solicit applications for its Fisheries & Habitat Restoration (FHR) Program. The FHR Program provides matching financial assistance on a competitive basis to support fishing community-based wetland, riparian, habitat, and coastal living resource restoration projects that build diverse partnerships with the food producing fishing community and foster local marine resource stewardship through education, restoration or enhancement activities.

Funding Availability

In 2002, nine projects received grants that ranged from \$5,000 to \$16,000. In 2003, \$120,000 of funding was available. In 2004, \$100,000 of funding will be available on a 1:1 matching basis for restoration projects. Matching funds from applicants may include contributions of non-federal dollars as well as in-kind donations such as material or equipment, technical assistance or services for site or resource restoration, land, volunteer labor, or stewardship and monitoring to sustain or evaluate restoration success.

Objectives

The objective of the Fisheries & Habitat Restoration Program is to support cooperative restoration or enhancement initiatives with the commercial seafood producing community throughout the United States. Projects may include restoration, enhancement or educational efforts directed at coastal marine or estuarine habitat, or living marine resources (e.g., fish and shellfish) that provide a renewable source of food or assist in the restoration of marine species linked to the use and productivity of fishery resources.

Project Examples

Project examples include restoration, enhancement or protection of habitat important to coastal shellfish resources (e.g., creating an oyster spawning reef or sanctuary, reseeded or reestablishment of inshore clam bed habitat, enhancement of submerged aquatic vegetation habitat, etc.), migratory species (e.g., salmon stream bed restoration), estuarine or anadromous species (e.g., wetland, mangrove, spawning or nursery habitat), and other marine species and habitat linked to fishery resources (e.g., turtle nesting beach habitat).

Monitoring

OT and NOAA will determine monitoring parameters and targets for successful applicants based on the NOAA Restoration Center Minimum Monitoring Requirements (http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners_funding/project_reports.html).

National Environmental Policy Act Requirements

All proposals will be reviewed for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance by NOAA Fisheries. All projects must comply with NEPA before Ocean Trust will release funds. For more information on NEPA, please visit NOAA's website at <http://www.nepa.noaa.gov>.

Applicants will be required to provide detailed information on the activities to be conducted, locations, sites, species and habitat to be affected, possible construction activities, and any environmental concerns that may exist (e.g., the use and disposal of hazardous or toxic chemicals, introduction of non-indigenous species, impacts to endangered and threatened species, the presence of historic structures, and impacts to coral reef systems) in order for NOAA to make a NEPA determination on each proposal.

In addition to providing specific information that will serve as the basis for any required impact analyses, applicants may also be requested to assist NOAA in drafting an environmental assessment, if NOAA determines an assessment is required. Applicants will be required to cooperate with NOAA in identifying and implementing feasible measures to reduce or avoid any identified adverse environmental impacts of their proposal.

Proposal Submissions

Send three copies of project proposals to Ocean Trust, 11921 Freedom Drive, Suite 550-PMB 5580, Reston, VA 20190. Proposals should be submitted by June 30, 2004 or October 31, 2001. The text of proposed project should include the following information:

I. Applicant Information

- A. Organization
- B. Address
- C. Submission Date
- D. Tax Status (e.g., private business, non-profit, university, etc.)
- E. Federal Tax ID #

II. Project Contact

- A. Project Manager
- B. Address (if different)
- C. Telephone, Fax, Email

III. Project Information

- A. Title
- B. Project location (Longitude latitude coordinates)
- C. Congressional District (if known)
- D. Habitat or resource type
- E. Project duration (e.g., general timeline)
- F. Partners (e.g., fishing/seafood, university, restoration community, etc.)

IV. Project Description

- A. Project Objectives/Summary
- B. Need for and/or benefits from project
- C. Activities to be undertaken (including monitoring)
- D. Involvement of each partner
- E. Coordination with other projects (if applicable)
- F. Monitoring Plan

V. Project Budget

- A. Total budget request
- B. Budget breakout (salaries, equipment, supplies, contractual, travel, etc.)
- C. Matching funds or sources (In-kind and cash)

VI. Attachments

- A. Anticipated permit or landowner agreement requirements (if applicable)
- B. Maps, photos, designs
- C. Letters of support
- D. Past project activities of applicant or partners

Questions

Questions on project concepts, eligibility or proposals can be directed to NOAA Community based Restoration Program (CRP) Field Staff or Thor Lassen at Ocean Trust by telephone (703) 450-9852, fax (703) 450-9853, or email: tjlassen@oceantrust.org.

NOAA Community based Restoration Program Field Contacts

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